

FIRST TRAMWAY ENGINE.

Believed to Have Been Invented by Richard Trevithick.

Who was the great genius for he must have been, first to conceive and apply steam locomotion? According to a drawing of one of the earliest steam locomotives, or, as it was designated at that time, "high pressure tram engine," invented by Richard Trevithick, which drawing was made in accordance with the testimony of Rees Jones, who aided in the fitting, and William Richards, its driver, it is proved to the satisfaction of historians that to Trevithick is due the credit for the application of steam to locomotion. In this engine the exhausted steam was discharged into the chimney stack and the wheels were combined together. Underneath the drawing it is stated that the engine was designated on the original plan, dated 1803, as "Trevithick's high pressure tram engine" and was constructed partly in Cornwall and partly at Pen-y-Darren works by Richard Trevithick, engineer for Samuel Homfray, proprietor of the Pen-y-Darren iron works.

The story is related as a historical fact that Merthyr Tydfil, while discussing the principles and feasibility of locomotive steam engine power with Richard Crawshay of the Cyfarthfa iron works, made a bet of 1,000 guineas that he would convey by steam power a load of iron to the capital navigation house (nine miles distant) along the basin tram road, which by means of this engine of the great Trevithick he afterward effected and won his wager, although the heavy gradients, sharp curves and fragile nature of the cast iron trackway operated against the return of this ingenious but rudely constructed machine with the empty trains; hence its discontinuance—Ball-ways World.

TOUCHING FOR KING'S EVIL.

Extent of the Custom in the Seventeenth Century.

Between the years 1661 and 1682 as many as 32,107 persons were touched for the king's evil. Each of them received a gold coin, with a hole in it, which—the coin, not the hole—was suspended from the neck by a ribbon. It became necessary to limit the number of patients to be touched, and at last no person was allowed in the king's presence for that purpose who had not previously obtained a certificate from the minister of the parish in which he or she lived that he or she was suffering from the disease.

Hambledon, Bucks, 1685, May 17. Mary Wallington had a certificate to go before the king for a disease called the king's evil.—Parish Registers, Page 81, R. E. Chester Waters.

From a proclamation issued by Charles II, dated Jan. 9, 1683, appointing the times at which the touch should be administered:

"And all such as shall hereafter come or repair to the court for this purpose shall bring with them certificates under the hands and seals of the parson, vicar or minister and of both or one of the churchwardens, testifying according to the truth that they have not at any time before been touched by his majesty to the intent to be healed of their disease. And all ministers and churchwardens are hereby required to be very careful to examine into the truth before they give such certificates and also to keep a register of all certificates they shall from time to time give."—London Notes and Queries.

Sea Salt.

It seems that the sea was made salt in the beginning as a part of the grand design of the Creator to provide for the system of evolution which has been going on since the creation. Many distinct species of living organisms exist in the sea as a result of its salinity, and their remains have largely contributed to the growth of continents. The three great factors in accounting for the system of currents in the ocean by which it becomes the great heat distributor of the globe are changes of temperature, the winds and salinity. The last mentioned becomes an important factor through the immediate and essential differences of specific gravity and consequent differences of level that it produces in different parts of the ocean through the action of evaporation and rainfall.

Stung Him.

Two very great swells, one a young duke and the other a young viscount, brushed against each other one night at the theater. The duke, anxious to subdue the viscount, pretended to take him for an usher and said, holding out his hand, "Have you a programme?" But the viscount, too quick for the duke, smiled and replied: "Yes, thank you, my man. I got one from the other fellow."

How He Told It.

Papa—Is the teacher well satisfied with you? Toby—Oh, quite. Papa—Did he tell you so? Toby—Yes. After a close examination he said to me the other day, "If all my scholars were like you I would shut up my school this very day." That shows that I know enough.—Indianapolis Star.

Had Heard It Before.

Mamma—It is strange that girls have not more sense. Grandpa—I think you inherit that opinion. Mamma—What do you mean? Grandpa—Well, it is exactly what your mother used to say twenty-five years ago.—New York Press.

Price or Reason?

Hewitt—A doctor is going to perform an operation on me tomorrow. Hewitt—What for? Hewitt—The usual rate, \$200.—Woman's Home Companion.

When placing himself under medical advice Carlyle once told a doctor, "I do as many things as I can, but you may make me a pipe."

Democratic Optimism.

It is so long since a Democratic politician of any consequence has ventured to talk in a hopeful strain of his party's prospects that recent utterances credited to Senator Mistura of Hudson county are surprisingly optimistic. Senator Mistura, according to the Newark Advertiser, "takes a sanguine view of Democratic prospects in New Jersey this year, all his expectations being based on a fact in the Republican party, which the Hudson Senator believes, will be serious enough to fatally handicap Republicans and enable the Democrats to elect a majority of the Assemblymen and four Senators. This would give the Senator's party in a good strategic position to carry the State for the Democratic Presidential candidate in 1908. There also is a Governor to elect next year."

Says the optimistic Senator Mistura: "The Republican party is now split in this State. The Gophytes are fighting the regular organization in almost every county, and they continue the same pace they have set, it is my opinion that they will succeed in splitting the Republican vote to such an extent that it will result in the election of Democratic candidates in counties where they are making their biggest fight."

"Naturally the wish is father to the thought. But calculations so openly and frankly made invite attention. Senator Mistura's remark that the tariff issue is to be predominant tells with the developments of the political situation, and the declarations of the Democratic leaders and the 'revisionists' who are ready and eager to act against the Republican party on that issue."

Bonds Without Premium.

There was only one bid for the issue of \$100,000 of Montclair park bonds received by the Montclair Town Council on Monday night. This bid was made by William B. Dickson, Solomon Wright, Jr., and Decatur M. Sawyer, local residents. They offered to take them at par. The bonds are for twenty-five years, and pay three and one-half per cent. The bid was accepted. Mr. Dickson is vice-president of the United States Steel Corporation.

Mountainside Hospital.

The contributors to the Mountainside Hospital during the month of June were: Dr. R. W. Cornish, Mrs. H. Davidson, Joseph Garlock, Mrs. George Mahony, Mrs. J. H. Moore, Miss O'Hare, Rev. J. M. Nardiello, H. Snyder, G. Lee Stout, Mrs. G. Lee Stout, Mrs. W. O. Stout, Mrs. W. F. Stubbett.

Summer Excursion Rates.

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